

CLAIMS

1. A locking mechanism for engaging and retaining a movable member (1), characterised in that the mechanism includes a hook member (3) mounted for angular displacement about a first axis (5) such that the hook member is movable into and out of retaining engagement with the movable member, a latch member (40) mounted for angular displacement about a second axis (42) parallel with the first axis (5), the latch member having a portion (45) thereof spaced from the second axis (42), which can be located to prevent movement of the hook member (3) out of retaining engagement, and first and second actuators (50 and 60) operable to rotate the latch member (40) about the second axis (42) such that the portion (45) is movable to a position where it does not prevent movement of the hook member (3) out of retaining engagement, and that the second actuator is a rotary actuator (60) and includes a cam (63) arranged for rotation about a third axis parallel to the second axis and located to engage a part (45) of the latch member (40).
2. A locking mechanism according to Claim 1, characterised in that the part engageable by the cam (63) is the portion (45) spaced from the second axis (42).
3. A locking mechanism according to Claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the first actuator includes a solenoid (50).
4. A locking mechanism according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the second actuator (60) includes an electric motor (61).
5. A locking mechanism according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the mechanism includes a spring (35) connected to the hook member (3) to urge it out of retaining engagement with the movable member (1).
6. A locking mechanism according to Claim 5, characterised in that the spring (35) is connected between the hook member (3) and the latch member (40) so as to urge the portion (45) of the latch member into engagement with the hook member (3).

7. A locking mechanism according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the hook member (3) has a hook formation (30) on one side of the first axis (5) and that it is engaged by the portion (45) of the latch member (40) on an opposite side of the first axis.
8. A locking mechanism according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the portion of the latch member (40) is a roller (45).
9. A locking mechanism according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the mechanism includes a sensor (55) responsive to the position of the latch member (40).
10. A locking mechanism according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the movable member is a capture pin (1) of aircraft landing gear.